

Notice of and reasons for the Final Determination

The NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee, established under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (the Act), has made a Final Determination to remove *Lepidium pseudopapillosum* Thell. from the Schedules of the Act by omitting reference to this species from Part 2 of Schedule 1 (Endangered species). The omission of species from the Schedules is provided for by Part 4 of the Act.

Summary of Conservation Assessment

The NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee has found that:

1. *Lepidium pseudopapillosum* Thell. (family Brassicaceae) was first described in 1917, with the type collection cited as being from “Australien: Neu-Süd-Wales: Formbe, rocky lands, leg. E. Smith, VIII. 1902” (Thellung 1917). This resulted in the species being considered native to New South Wales (NSW) (NPWS 2001; CHAH 2024) despite the locality of ‘Formbe’ never being properly identified and remaining unknown.
2. Specimens subsequently collected from the Canberra area in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) were tentatively included in *Lepidium pseudopapillosum* (Retter and Harden 2000). However, these specimens were considered atypical for the species (Hewson 1981; Retter and Harden 2000), and were later described as a new species, *L. ginninderrense*, considered endemic to the ACT (Scarlett 2001). With the exception of the ambiguously geolocated type specimen, no other specimen-backed record has been made for *L. pseudopapillosum* in NSW (OEH 2023; AVH 2024). The only confirmed specimens of *L. pseudopapillosum* are known from the northern plains of Victoria and the Flinders Ranges in South Australia (Scarlett 2001; Scarlett and Hewson 2019).
3. A recent re-appraisal of the notes attached to the type specimen of *Lepidium pseudopapillosum* has shown that the translation of the locality ‘Formbe’ is an error, and the collection site is correctly ‘Formby’ (Phillips 2024). While several places and properties named Formby were known in Australia at the time of the type collection, none are known from NSW (ICSM 2024). Furthermore, an incorrect association between the type collection site and NSW appears to have arisen from the pre-printed text ‘N.S.W.’ on the specimen label, with this not being strictly indicative that it was sourced from within the state (Phillips 2024). Overall, evidence suggests the specimen most likely came from the Adelaide Hills in South Australia and was almost certainly not sourced from within NSW (Phillips 2024).
4. The finding that the holotype of *Lepidium pseudopapillosum* is not from NSW, and a lack of any other confirmed record in the state means *L. pseudopapillosum* is not known to be native to NSW (Phillips 2024).
5. In view of the above, the NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee is of the opinion that *Lepidium pseudopapillosum* Thell. is no longer eligible to be listed as a threatened species under the Schedules of the Act.

NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee

Overall Assessment Outcome:

Lepidium pseudopapillosum Thell. is not eligible to be considered a species of plant native to New South Wales under Section 4.3 of the Act.

Professor Caroline Gross
Chairperson
NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee

References:

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